

Notice of Exemption**- 1 -****To:**Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail:P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044Street Address:
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814**From:**Department of Fish and Wildlife
Bay Delta Region
2825 Cordelia Road, Suite 100
Fairfield, CA 94534**Project Title:** 2021 Emergency Drought Salinity Barrier Project (Streambed Alteration Agreement No. EPIMS-CCA-19852-R3)**Project Location:** The project is located at West False River, a tributary to the San Joaquin River, in the County of Contra Costa, State of California; Latitude 38.057057 N, Longitude 121.670432 W; Assessor's Parcel Number 027-010-005-0.**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Streambed Alteration Agreement number EPIMS-CCA-19852-R3, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to the California Department of Water Resources.

In 2021, the lack of precipitation within California, recent warm temperatures and extremely dry soils have depleted the expected runoff water from the Sierra-Cascade snowpack and has again caused a potential for water supplies to be insufficient to repel salinity in the Delta. In an Emergency Proclamation issued May 10, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom directed Permittee to take actions, if necessary, to implement plans that address potential Delta salinity issues, including, among other things, the installation and removal of emergency drought salinity barriers. As a response, the California Department of Water Resources proposes to install (by July 1, 2022) and remove (by November 30, 2022) one temporary rock barrier weir structure, which will span West False River, and installation of two water quality and/or flow monitoring stations.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** California Department of Water Resources**Exempt Status:**

- Statutory Exemption. California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 21080(b)(3) and 15269(a), Governor's Proclamation of State of Emergency, May 10, 2021
- Categorical Exemption.

Reasons why project is exempt: In an Emergency Proclamation issued May 10, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom directed Permittee to take actions, if necessary, to implement plans that address potential Delta salinity issues, including, among other things, the installation and removal of emergency drought salinity barriers. Paragraph 11 of the Proclamation suspended CEQA for purposes of carrying out this directive and other specified directives, stating specifically that this suspension applies to any actions taken by state agencies, as well as for any necessary permits or approvals required to complete these actions.

CDFW Contact Person: Monica Oey, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist); (707) 428-2088

DocuSigned by:
 Signature: Melissa Farinha Date: 6/2/2021
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 Melissa Farinha, Environmental Program Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____